



From Your State Senator
Joe Crisco

**Representing the communities of Ansonia, Beacon Falls,
Bethany, Derby, Hamden, Naugatuck & Woodbridge**

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www.SenatorCrisco.cga.ct.gov

It was a pleasure to meet and read with second-grade students at the Laurel Ledge School.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE for BEACON FALLS

Please don't hesitate to contact me at
1-800-842-1420 or e-mail through my
website at **www.SenatorCrisco.cga.ct.gov**

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FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR JOE CRISCO

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FOR BEACON FALLS

Regionalism in the Valley: Sharing Heavy Equipment

I am pleased that Beacon Falls, along with Derby, Seymour and Oxford, will receive \$250,000 for a storm drain vacuum truck to be shared among the four towns. This approach to regionalism will help municipalities save money and move the burden away from taxpayers by providing funding for capital equipment that can be shared by several towns.

Addressing Mental Health Issues

The horrific events in Newtown turned the spotlight on the state's mental health system and drew attention to the urgent need to provide comprehensive behavioral health care to persons with mental illness, especially children.

One of the reasons children do not receive timely care is that some health insurance companies fail to cover critical components of that care, according to the parents and practitioners who have contacted me. That is why, as Chairman of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, I have proposed legislation that would require health insurance companies to cover the following services:

- Behavioral health assessments
- Consultation and collaboration among practitioners
- Consultations between practitioners and family

Fighting Rising Electric Rates

I strongly opposed the rate hike granted to CL&P. I was especially troubled by the increase in the residential fixed customer charge—an increase that goes into effect whether or not you turn on the lights. The new rates are unaffordable for many people on fixed or limited incomes and undermine any conservation measures that many residents in Beacon Falls have pursued. I therefore have co-sponsored legislation that addresses proposed rate requests and also addresses some of the unfair practices of alternative electric suppliers:

- Allow for additional public comment on proposed changes in electric rates
- Provide savings for conservation measures undertaken by reducing, capping or eliminating fixed charges
- Ban variable rates charged to residential customers for electric generation services